

Remarks

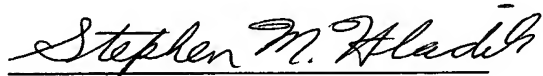
Entry of the above amendments, consideration of the application as amended, and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested. Claims 1-24 remain pending.

Claims 1, 2, 9, 10, 17, and 18 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim certain features of Applicants' invention. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification and in the claims, as originally filed. Claims 1, 9, and 17 are amended to recite "associating a separate timer with each data packet received and stored by a central queue." Support for these amendments is provided in paragraph [0015] of the specification, for example. Also, support for the amendments of claims 1, 9, and 17 to further recite "storing states of said plurality of timers in an array" may be found, for instance, in paragraphs [0019], [0024]-[0025], FIG. 3, and in claims 2, 10, and 18 as originally filed. Claims 2, 10, and 18 have not been amended to recite further subject matter. No new matter is added to the application by any amendment presented herein.

Favorable action on this application, as amended, is respectfully solicited.

If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, Applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone him at the number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stephen M. Hladik". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Dated: April 8, 2005.

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